

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. Entry of this Amendment under Rule 116 is merited as it raises no new issues and requires no further search.

Counsel thanks Examiner Reichle for the voice message of August 10, 2006, confirming that (i) claims 2 and 3 will be allowed if presented in an Amendment canceling all other claims, and that (ii) only a 2-month extension of time will be required if such Amendment is filed before the statutory deadline of September 6, 2006. This amendment paper follows accordingly.

The claim amendments presented in this paper are identical to those of the July 6, 2006 Amendment, except that claim 26 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Namely, allowable claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of base claim 1. Claim 2 and claim 3 depending therefrom should be allowed for at least the reason indicated in paragraph 7 of the Final Office Action.

Accordingly, all claims in the present application, namely, claims 2 and 3 are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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